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# The US wants a laser weapon that shouts at people before burning them



**A laser weapon could shout at you from far away**

Brian Stablyk/Getty

By **David Hambling**

The US Marines are developing a new laser weapon that can transmit voice messages at long range, or be turned up to deafen, dazzle or cause painful burns.

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The Scalable Compact Ultra-short Pulse Laser System (SCUPLS) will be a non-lethal weapon for crowd control, according to US Navy documents.

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The weapon builds on previous prototypes developed by the Pentagon. An igniter laser fires an intense pulse lasting just a few million-billionths of a second powerful enough to create a ball of plasma, which can ...

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